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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 17 March 2005 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of Djibouti to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of his notes verbales dated 21 June 2004 and 7 March 2005.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission has the honour to inform the Committee that Djibouti, which is classified as a least developed country, does not manufacture weapons of mass destruction or any kind of conventional weapon and, since it does not have such technology, cannot materially assist States or non-State actors to manufacture or procure weapons of mass destruction.

Moreover, as a party to the majority of the international legal instruments that prohibit the manufacture, stockpiling and transfer of such weapons, Djibouti cannot help States or non-State actors either legally or politically to manufacture or procure weapons of mass destruction.

Nevertheless, further to the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), the Permanent Mission has attached herewith the report submitted by Djibouti pursuant to paragraph 4 of the aforementioned Security Council resolution (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 17 March 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

Report of Djibouti to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

The present report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1540 (2004) and is being submitted to the Security Council Committee established under rule 28 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

1. Conscious of the threat posed to international peace and security by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and convinced that all Member States should fulfil their obligations in relation to disarmament and arms control, Djibouti supports unreservedly the various international efforts being made to ensure the non-proliferation and elimination of such weapons. It is also concerned about the devastating effects of the manufacture and use of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, whether by States or by non-State actors. Furthermore, it has repeatedly called for an end to the manufacture, use, possession, transport and stockpiling of such weapons on account of the devastation they can cause, globally, regionally and nationally.

2. In order to guarantee international peace and security, Djibouti would like such weapons quite simply to be eliminated. In that regard, it has supported and sponsored in the First Committee the relevant General Assembly resolutions on control of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

3. At the regional level, Djibouti has ratified the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) and has always supported efforts to eliminate all weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East, as has been done to secure stability and peace in other regions. It has supported the General Assembly resolutions adopted to that end, including resolution 58/34, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" and resolution 58/68, entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

4. Djibouti also wishes to stress that the Middle East and Africa, which are among the regions of the world where tensions are highest, should be made free of all types of weapons of mass destruction.

5. Djibouti's commitment to and focus on this issue are reflected internationally by its signature of and accession to the major international treaties and conventions on nuclear, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction.

6. Djibouti is doing its utmost to control its borders and to screen meticulously persons and goods crossing them. It strongly supports the efforts being made in all regions of the world to secure international peace and security and is therefore concerned about the upsurge in terrorist activity and about the possibility of weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of terrorist groups. Since the situation prevailing in certain parts of the world could make it easier for those groups to obtain such weapons, Djibouti invites the international community to work together towards the elimination of weapons of mass destruction. In order to dispel the fears aroused by the proliferation of such weapons, it is necessary first and foremost to put an end to situations of occupation and to resolve the conflicts persisting in certain regions of the world, including the Middle East, for maintaining the status quo can only worsen the situation and heighten tensions.